

Information Disclosure Statement

The information disclosure statement (IDS) submitted on September 21, 2009 was filed after the mailing date of the Notice of Allowance on July 17, 2009. The submission is in compliance with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97. Accordingly, the information disclosure statement is being considered by the examiner.

Foreign reference Tanaka JP 3-173087 A, Tanaka hereinafter, discloses the claimed metal component, such as Cu and Fe in an amount from 30% to 70 %, and that the Cu-Zn alloy could be added to metal component. However, Tanaka fails to disclose that Cu-Zn alloy is in an amount larger than 10 mass% of the metal component.

From the prior art of the record, Yoshida et al. 4,006,106, Yoshida hereinafter, discloses a metal component comprises Cu-Zn alloy in an amount larger than 10 mass% of the metal component, col. 2, lines 12-17, 23-27, 45-58. However, Yoshida teaches away from Tanaka's disclosure as Yoshida clearly states that the total amount of the metal component must not exceed 30%, col. 4, lines 22-25, which is out of the claimed range.

For this reason one of ordinary skills in the art at the time the invention was made would not have been motivated to combine Tanaka and Yoshida teachings. Therefore claims 12 through 28 stands as previously allowed.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to JOSE M. DIAZ whose telephone number is (571)272-

9822. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:00 - 5:00 EST Monday-Thursday;
Fridays off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Nimesh Patel can be reached on 571-272-2457. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/José M. Díaz/
Examiner, Art Unit 2879

/Sikha Roy/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2879